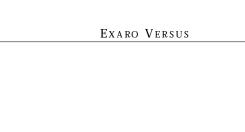


KING OF THE UNIVERSE

I used to be king of the universe. I used to have meaning and order and direction in my life. People came to me for ideas and answers and I gave them exactly what they needed. Some times I even gave them more. Some times they were pleasantly surprised with the knowledge, with the intelligence, with the fact that sometimes pieces fit together so well that it almost seems they were meant to fit that way. Less often they were disappointed; they didn't see why my answers were better; they held my ability and my triumph against me. They could have been unintelligently avoiding the truth; they could have thought like a communist, thinking that someone else should not be revered, but the capitalist in them think that it should have been THEM. But it CAN be done. I used my brain and I proved them wrong. I was invincible. I produced RESULTS, and I did it with three times the speed of everyone else. People were amazed with me. I had a following.

There are many questions I ask. Maybe it is creativity that asks them and the engineer to find the answer. I have always been both. But when you get to the top, when you see the view from the top, well, when you see it all, what more do you have to ask?

Although I do not claim to be God, I wonder: what would she do to this? If she finds someone like this, what does she do? My guess is that she would drop it, not kill it, because she is not a vengeful God, but she could punish it unjustly so that God could ask them: so now what? You've had all of the answers before, so what do you do now? When they get you out of the hospital, everyone will think that you are fine, but you are not; I DO that to you. And you'll have to deal with it all, and you'll have to remain strong, because that is what you do, you'll have to be strong for everyone else, and inside you'll be falling apart, and no one will understand. Who's your messiah now?, she'll ask. Will you have an answer?



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Okay, this place is such a mess.

I think that only because everything around us is such a mess, and we only get to see bits and pieces of the mess.

Have you ever thought that there is so much going on in the world, and have you thought that we are so lucky that you have access to so much information? I mean, the internet alone allows you to get information from reliable as well as subversive sources about topics that might not be covered in depth in the daily news. I mean, look how powerful CNN is now, how they have a few cable channels, and web sites, and well, they probably have a bunch of other stuff too, to make the world a more informed place.

That is, if you choose their avenues to get information from. You can always choose to surf the net and get information from people who live in recreational vehicles and drink too much and are sure that they have been abducted by aliens. Well, you choose you own sources, I guess.

And yes, maybe information is a good thing, if people looking for information can weed out the bad information from the good information, or if they can weed out the bad sources when they are too bust paying attention to the good sources.

I guess.

So what does it mean to have your own web site? Well, it means getting on the internet enough to get web space. I mean, America On line offers five screen names and 10 meg of web space to you for only twenty dollars a month, all while giving you internet access to most places in the United States. Okay, in Europe too. The point is that there are a lot of places to go to get access to the information you want to share. Programs on the computer can generate the right language for web pages too. That and a little advertising, and you can have people reading what you decide to post on the web.

So what does it mean to get information from common sources? Well, be prepared for the fact that it might not have the slant of your life style. It once again is a matter

of knowing how to get the right information.

I have come to the point where I am so tired of the quote-unquote information super-highway that I don't watch television much, where I don't read the newspaper... Where I don't even surf the net much or listen to the radio. I get to tired of listening to other people telling me how to think that I often prefer to just miss out on the big stories so that I can keep my sanity.

Maybe I am the only person that thinks that way. Yes, I have my own web site and I have my own e-mail and I'm really thinking about getting cable so I can watch cool television. And no, I don't get a newspaper, and right now I don't even have cable, and I much prefer listening to a compact disc of mine for music instead of leaving my will to the radio station. So maybe for now I have found a way to define a line to keep for me and information. You know, how much is too much. That is something I try to keep in mind every day.

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## When Credibility Doesn't Matter WHEN CREDIBILITY DOESN'T MATTER

There's a fine line between what the media says is good and what the public says is good. This much I have discovered with the whole Clinton "scandal".

I have made a point to stop listening to the reports on how Clinton is doing, what the media thinks the people think about Clinton, you name it. I did go through an article recently, though, and it started aggravating me right at the first sentence. As the editorial letter says, "President Clinton has lied and lied and lied some more..." I was already intrigued.

Granted, that was the first line of the story.

But I think we as Americas know that the average politician lies a lot anyway, to their family, to the other politicians, to their represented people. The only thing that is novel about this story, versus stories of other presidents, is that there is more media in the President's face, and more avenues than there have ever been, to tell the public about the President's wrongdoing.

I think the majority of people I have talked to agree that this whole Clinton thing is pointless. The people don't seem to care so much about wither or not the president bedded someone. Or didn't. Or lied about it. You get the point. I think people get that Clinton has a private side; Clinton is just subject to a more volatile pressure from groups that want to expose him.

I don't think that Clinton is going to make our country go down the tubes with a pending possibility of an impeachment. And I don't think that Clinton will make love to any stranger he can, whether or not he is the President of the United States. What I can think is there there has to be a fine line for what we as people can tolerate from the people we voted into office. We all have to make that judgement every day, it is just that now we have to do it when we learn more information. So we have been making these kinds of judgements for years; it won't be too hard to do that again.

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